

PATENT
674525-2002AMENDMENT

Please amend the application without prejudice, without admission, without surrender of subject matter and without intention of creating any estoppel as to equivalents, as follows.

In the Claims

1. (Cancelled)
2. (Currently amended) A method for producing a regulatory lymphocyte for promoting tolerance to an allergen or antigen, wherein the method comprises:
 - a) incubating [[an]] a mature antigen presenting cell (APC) with (i) a composition capable of upregulating upgrading expression of an endogenous Notch or Notch ligand in the APC and (ii) the allergen or antigen, thereby producing a primed APC; and
 - b) contacting a lymphocyte with the primed APC, thereby producing a regulatory lymphocyte.
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 2, wherein the lymphocyte is a T cell.
5. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 2, wherein the composition capable of upregulating expression of an endogenous Notch or Notch ligand comprises IL-10, a substance selected from the group consisting of polypeptides and fragments thereof, linear peptides, cyclic peptides, synthetic compounds, natural compounds, low molecular weight organic compounds and low molecular weight inorganic compounds.
6. (Cancelled)
7. (Cancelled)
8. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 2, wherein the Notch ligand is selected from the group consisting of Serrate, Delta and homologues thereof.
9. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 2, wherein the APC is a dendritic cell.
10. (Withdrawn) A method for producing a regulatory lymphocyte for promoting tolerance to an allergen or antigen, which method comprises incubating a lymphocyte with the regulatory lymphocyte produced by the method of claim 2.
11. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 10, wherein the lymphocyte is a T cell.

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12. (Withdrawn) A method for suppressing an immune response in a mammal to an allergen or antigen comprising:

- a) producing a regulatory lymphocyte by the method of claim 2; and
- b) administering the regulatory lymphocyte to the mammal, wherein the regulatory lymphocyte suppresses an immune response to the allergen or antigen.

13. (Withdrawn) A method of producing a regulatory lymphocyte capable of suppressing the activity of other lymphocytes, comprising contacting a lymphocyte with the regulatory lymphocyte produced by the method of claim 2, thereby producing a regulatory lymphocyte.

14-16. (Cancelled)

17. (Withdrawn) A method of treating a patient suffering from a disease characterized by inappropriate lymphocyte activity, which method comprises administering to the patient a regulatory lymphocyte produced by the method of claim 2 or claim 13.

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Previously presented) A method for producing a regulatory lymphocyte for promoting tolerance to an allergen or antigen, which method comprises:

a) incubating an antigen presenting cell (APC) obtained from a human or animal patient with (i) a composition capable of upregulating expression of Serrate or Delta in the APC and (ii) the allergen or antigen, thereby producing a primed APC, wherein the lymphocyte is a T cell and the APC is a dendritic cell, and wherein the composition comprises a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of Noggin, Chordin, Follistatin, Xnr3, FGF and immunosuppressive cytokines; and

b) contacting a lymphocyte with the primed APC, thereby producing a regulatory lymphocyte.

20. (Previously presented) The method of claim 2 or claim 19, wherein the allergen or antigen is selected from the group consisting of myelin basic protein, collagen, insulin, MHC antigens and Der p 1.

21-24. (Cancelled)

25. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 19, wherein the composition capable of upregulating expression of Serrate or Delta comprises IL-10, a substance selected from the group consisting of polypeptides and fragments thereof, linear peptides, cyclic peptides,

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~~synthetic compounds, natural compounds, low molecular weight organic compounds and low molecular weight inorganic compounds.~~

26-29. (Cancelled)

30. (Withdrawn) A method for producing a regulatory lymphocyte for promoting tolerance to an allergen or antigen, which method comprises incubating a lymphocyte with the regulatory lymphocyte produced by the method of claim 19.

31. (Cancelled)

32. (Withdrawn) A method for suppressing an immune response in a mammal to an allergen or antigen comprising:

- a) producing a regulatory lymphocyte by the method of claim 19; and
- b) administering the regulatory lymphocyte to the mammal, wherein the regulatory lymphocyte suppresses an immune response to the allergen or antigen.

33. (Cancelled)

34. (Cancelled)